

Message Text

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11
ACTION AID-31

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----- 044680
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, CY
SUBJ: AUB STUDENTS

REF: (A) STATE 194832, (B) STATE 192301, (C) STATE 194858

1. EMBASSY GREATLY APPRECIATES EFFORTS TO ASSIST CYPRIOT AUB STUDENTS REPORTED REF A. PROBLEM CONTINUES TO BUBBLE HERE AS STUDENTS HELD A SMALL DEMONSTRATION ON AUGUST 6. CHARGE AND PAO DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH GOC SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN STELLA SOULIOTI ON SAME DAY. BOTH EVENTS BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL.

2. REF A ASKS FOR COMMENTS ON PARA THREE. OUR FIRST REACTION IS THAT USE OF FY77 SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE FUNDS--IN EFFECT REDUCING AMOUNT OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE THROUGH UNHCR--WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOC. CYPRUS ADMINISTRATION WOULD SEE THIS AS US TRYING TO SHIFT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE STUDENTS FROM USG TO GOC. NET RESULT, THEY WOULD SAY, WOULD BE A STRAIGHT GOC PAYMENT FOR STUDENTS, SINCE HUMANITARIAN EXPENDITURES WILL HAVE TO BE MADE WHETHER US ASSISTS OR NOT. IF USE OF SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE FUNDS FOR PARTICIPANT TRAINING WOULD REQUIRE CONGRESSIONAL ADVISE IN ANY CASE, WHY COULD CONGRESS NOT BE ASKED TO INCREASE TOTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CYPRUS BY RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT REQUIRED TO SUBSIDIZE STUDENTS?

3. WE ARE EMPHASIZING TO ALL--GOC, FULBRIGHT COMMISSION, AND STUDENTS--THAT USG IS MAKING SINCERE ATTEMPT TO ASSIST FORMER AUB STUDENTS BUT THAT THERE ARE MANY LEGAL PROBLEMS. WE HAVE BEEN AREFUL TO STRESS THAT STUDENTS SHOULD NOT EXPECT AN
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EARLY SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEM AND, PER LAST SENTANCE

PARA ONE REF A, SHOULD SEEK PERSONAL FUNDING AND PLACEMENT AS
BEST THEY CAN.
DILLERY

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